



Make a  
**COOL CHANGE.**  
Recycle Your Old Fridge.



## Recycle Your Old Fridge or Freezer; Replace When Needed with ENERGY STAR®

Do you have one mostly for a few six-packs? One you've had so long, the seals don't quite seal and the dent doesn't matter? An old fridge—the second one in your basement or garage—costs more to run than you think. There's no better time than the present to recycle your time-worn fridge. In addition to the immediate energy savings from unplugging your old unit, some utilities, cities, and counties are paying consumers to get their old, second units off the grid, and to properly recycle the steel and other materials they contain.

When you're ready to say goodbye, be sure your energy-hogging second unit is properly recycled so that it is unplugged, once and for all. Visit the ENERGY STAR Make a Cool Change: Recycle Your Old Fridge or Freezer Campaign at [www.energystar.gov/recycle](http://www.energystar.gov/recycle) to find recycling options and learn about rebates and special deals in your area.

If your main fridge or freezer is past its prime, you may also be able to take advantage of rebates on new energy-efficient appliances in the coming months, thanks to federal stimulus funds. So check the age of all your fridges and freezers. A unit manufactured before 1993 costs more than double to operate than a new ENERGY STAR qualified model, and you're wasting \$100 or more a year in electricity to run it. Fridges and freezers from the 1970s cost four times more to operate.

Even if you bought your fridge or freezer in the mid-1990s, the time may be right to replace it. This is especially true if you have a side-by-side refrigerator—which uses 25 percent more energy than a typical top-mount unit—or if you're thinking of remodeling, could use a smaller model, or your unit has been unreliable. Use ENERGY STAR's [refrigerator calculator](#) to find out how much energy and money your fridge or freezer is costing you. The savings may justify replacing it now.

ENERGY STAR's Make a Cool Change Campaign encourages consumers to recycle their old, inefficient refrigerators and freezers, and when needed, replace them with new models bearing the ENERGY STAR label. Led by the U.S. Department of Energy, the campaign aims to help our country save energy, save money, and protect the environment.

When you go searching for a new unit, be sure to look for the blue ENERGY STAR label. Every major appliance manufacturer sells ENERGY STAR qualified fridges, which must be at least 20 percent more efficient than the minimum federal energy standard, and ENERGY STAR qualified freezers, which must be at least 10 percent more efficient. These efficient models offer advanced technologies that keep your food fresher, longer. Certain smaller models may also meet your needs, including compact ENERGY STAR qualified dorm-size units and units designed for the garage. Many sleek new models will look as good in your home as they do on your energy bill.

*ENERGY STAR is a government-backed program that helps individuals and businesses save energy and protect the environment through superior energy efficiency. Learn more at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).*